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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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09/30/2003

Koichiro Tani

4635-002

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02/25/2009

LOWE HAUPTMAN HAM & BERNER, LLP  
1700 DIAGONAL ROAD  
SUITE 300  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

HAND, MELANIE JO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3761

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/25/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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| 10673258                        | 9/30/2003   | TANI, KOICHIRO                                    | 4635-002            |

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EXAMINER

MELANIE J. HAND

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Commissioner for Patents

1. The reply brief filed December 15, 2008 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal. It is noted that examiner has issued two examiner's answers fully addressing all substantive arguments against the outstanding claim rejections. This second reply brief appears to merely present a non-substantive dissection of examiner's responses to previous arguments that does not add to the prosecution history. Therefore, the arguments made in the reply brief are acknowledged but will not be further addressed herein.

/Tatyana Zalukaeva/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3761

/Melanie J Hand/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3761